



*Transmitted Via Electronic Mail*

August 15, 2013

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II  
Emergency and Remedial Response Division  
290 Broadway, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room W-20  
New York, NY 10007-1866  
Attn: Alice Yeh

**Re: Monthly Progress Report No. 22  
Combined Sewer Overflow/Stormwater Outfall Investigation  
Diamond Alkali Superfund Site (Lower Passaic River Study Area)**

Dear Ms. Yeh:

Submitted herein is the Monthly Progress Report for work performed as part of the Combined Sewer Overflow/Stormwater Outfall Investigation for the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site (Lower Passaic River Study Area). This progress report has been prepared pursuant to Section IX Paragraph 53 of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Occidental Chemical Corporation, Index No. CERCLA-02-2011-2016.

If you have any questions, please call me at 732.246.5851.

Sincerely,

**Tierra Solutions, Inc.**

Paul Brzozowski  
Remediation Manager  
On behalf of Occidental Chemical Corporation  
(as successor to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company)

cc: Carol E. Dinkins, Vinson & Elkins  
Willard Potter, de maximis, inc.  
Karyllan Dodson Mack, K&L Gates

**MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT NO. 22**  
**COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW/STORMWATER OUTFALL INVESTIGATION**  
**DIAMOND ALKALI SUPERFUND SITE (LOWER PASSAIC RIVER STUDY AREA)**  
**WORK PERIOD: JULY 2013**

**Actions Taken Towards Achieving Compliance with the Order**

- Tierra continued weather-monitoring activities.
- Tierra completed the second sampling attempt at the Clay Street combined sewer overflow (CSO) on July 1 and 2, 2013. Bulk sample collection activities were completed on July 1, 2013 and sample processing was completed on July 2, 2013.
- Tierra collected field/rinse blank samples following decontamination activities on July 15, 2013 after completion of the first sampling event at the Clay Street CSO. The field/rinse blank sample for PCDDs/PCDFs was recollected on July 22, 2013 due to the samples arriving at the laboratory outside of the required temperature.

**USEPA and Other Information/Correspondence Received**

- USEPA sent an email to Tierra on July 17, 2013 forwarding questions and comments from PVSC regarding the Clay Street Sampling attempts. Tierra and USEPA participated in a conference call on July 24, 2013 to discuss the email.
- In an email dated July 12, 2013 USEPA requested that Tierra submit Field Modifications to the QAPP Worksheets and SOPs to address changing sampling locations.

**Sampling or Testing Results Received or Generated During the Course of Implementing the Work**

- Unvalidated results for the whole water sample for dioxin and PCB analyses from Clay Street sampling Attempt #1 were submitted to USEPA on July 25, 2013.

**Future Plans, Actions and Data Scheduled for August 2013 and September 2013**

- Continue weather-monitoring (on-going).
- Continue Phase I CSO sampling activities at Clay Street location (on-going).
- Prepare a report summarizing all pre-program blank studies (estimate September 2013).
- Continue to submit unvalidated results for the Phase I sampling events (estimate August/September 2013).
- Submit field audit report (estimate September 2013).
- Submit unvalidated results of the rinse blank (PR105CFRB) (estimate late August 2013).
- Collect the second sample from the Clay Street CSO (estimate August 2013).

**Actual or Potential Violations, Other Problems Encountered and Corrective Actions**

- None during this reporting period.

**Delays Encountered or Anticipated and Mitigation Actions**

- None for this period